

UPPER CANADA.

COPIES or EXTRACTS

or

LETTERS from Lord Howick to Mr. W. L. Mackenzie, dated respectively the 23d June, the 29th June, and the 8th of September 1832.

Ordered to be printed 22d April 1833.

(70.)

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OF

LETTERS from Lord HOWICK to Mr. W. L. MACKENZIE, dated respectively the 23d June, the 29th June and the 8th of September 1832.

Sir,

Downing Street, 23d June 1832.

I AM directed by Viscount Goderich to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 13th Instant, and to inform you that his Lordship will be ready to receive yourself and the other Gentlemen for whom you request an Audience, on Wednesday the 27th, at Half past Twelve. His Lordship directs me at the same Time to inform you that he is not aware to what Letters and Petitions you refer as having been transmitted by you to this Department and not acknowledged. He is unable to find any Communications which have not received all due Attention. I am further to observe, that although Lord Goderich is ready to hear any Observations you may have to offer upon the Affairs of Upper Canada as an Individual interested in the Welfare of that Province, and as a Member of the Assembly, he cannot recognize you as being deputed to act for any other Persons, nor can he enter into any Discussion with you upon the Measures which His Majesty's Government may think it right to pursue. The Views and Intentions of His Majesty's Government with respect to the Affairs of the Province can only be made known to the People of Upper Canada through the Medium of the Governor or of the Legislature; it is to one or other of these Authorities that any Complaints which Individuals may have Occasion to make should properly be addressed, and if the Course pursued by the Executive Government should be such as to give just Ground for Dissatisfaction, the Inhabitants have by their Representatives the Means of bringing their Grievance under the immediate Attention of His Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) Howick.

Sir,

Downing Street, 29th June 1832.

I HAVE had the Honour of receiving and laying before Lord Goderich your Letter of the 26th Instant, and I am directed by his Lordship to observe, that you do not appear to have quite correctly understood my Letter of the 23d.

That Letter does not, as you seem to have supposed, "shut the Door of the Colonial Office on all that vast Mass of Facts which you have offered to submit as deputed in behalf of the unrepresented Land Owners and Inhabitants of Upper Canada;" on the contrary, Lord Goderich has expressly stated his perfect Readiness to hear any Facts or Observations, which you may think it necessary to bring under his Consideration; he only declines, as you have no Authority from any recognized Body, to enter into any official Discussions with you upon the public Affairs of the Colony, or to admit that you are the Organ of those whom you term the unrepresented Land Owners and Inhabitants of Upper Canada.

(70.)

Lord



Lord Goderich cannot form his Judgment, as to the Wishes and Opinions of the People of Upper Canada, from the unauthorized Statements of Individuals in opposition to those of the Assembly, in which he is convinced that all Classes of the Inhabitants are fairly represented,

With reference to the Petition of Mr. Morison to which you refer, I am directed to observe, that your Letter upon that Subject was duly attended to, although (according to the Rules of this Office) it ought to have been sent from the Governor. A Despatch was written to Sir John Colborne on the 8th September 1831 in which he was directed to allow that Gentleman the Land he had formerly been promised.

Mr. Balfour has laid before Lord Goderich your Letter of Yesterday, in consequence of which I am directed to say, that his Lordship will be ready to receive you, with the Gentlemen you mention, on Monday at Two o'Clock.

I have &c.

(Signed) Howick.

Sir,

Downing Street, 8th September 1832.

I AM directed by Viscount Goderich to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters of 27th August and 5th September. In answer to these Communications I have to inform you that the other Addresses, as well as that from the Niagara District, have in the usual Manner been laid before His Majesty; and you are at liberty to state this Fact to the Persons by whom they have been signed, without receiving a separate Answer to each.

With respect to the War Losses and the State of the Representation, although of course he can enter into no Discussion with any private Individual on such Subjects, Lord Goderich is willing to receive and to pay such Attention as they may appear to require to any further written Statements you may think fit to submit to him. If you have any thing to offer which can only be verbally communicated, his Lordship will not refuse on his Return to Town to afford you such Opportunities of addressing him as his other Avocations will allow.

Mr. Thomas Appleton's Petition having been received unaccompanied by any Acknowledgment from the Lieutenant Governor, it was sent to Sir John Colborne by the July Mail, with Directions to return it to Mr. Appleton with a Copy of Lord Goderich's Circular Letter of 2d May 1831. You did not even allude to Mr. Appleton's Petition in your Letter of 13th of June, nor for some Weeks subsequently, and Lord Goderich therefore presumed that it had been forwarded by the Individual himself direct from Upper Canada.

On the Subject of the Papers which you request to have returned Lord Goderich directs me to observe, that it is the Practice of this Office to retain for the Purpose of Reference all Papers which are enclosed in Letters addressed to the Secretary of State, and that a Departure from this Rule might lead to the greatest Inconvenience. As however you appear to have been ignorant of this being the Case, and in consideration of the Nature of some of the Papers you are anxious to recover Lord Goderich has directed them to be returned; but he thinks it necessary that you should be distinctly warned that such an Indulgence will not again be extended to you, and that all Papers you may in future transmit to him will be deposited in this Office as public Documents.

With respect to the Mode of transmitting Petitions to this Country, Lord Goderich is not aware in what Manner he can render more explicit the Information you have already received. You have been told that the Letters enclosed in mine of 13th Ultimo were sent by a Mistake of the Clerk by whom that Letter was put up, and it has been pointed out to you that my Letter of 13th August distinctly refers to One Enclosure only.

Lord

Lord Goderich does not feel himself at liberty to make any Application to his Grace the Postmaster General on the Subject of the Petition which has been sent to you; the Inhabitants of Upper Canada have a secure and easy mode of transmitting their Complaints to the Throne by the regular official Channels, and Permission could not without much Risk of Abuse be granted to Individuals acting in no public Capacity to receive Packets free of Postage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWICK.

